

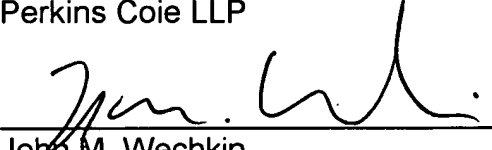
REMARKS

In the response (filed September 16, 2003) to the June 18, 2003 Office Action, applicants amended claims 4, 10-12, 15, 19-21, 27, 28, 34-36, 51, 57-60, 64, 65, 70 and 71 to depend from claims that have been allowed or have been indicated to be allowable. During a telephonic conference with the undersigned attorney on October 31, 2003, the Examiner noted that these claims as well as claims 72 and 73 had previously been cancelled by the Examiner in an Examiner's Amendment mailed November 25, 2002. These claims (with the exception of claim 10) have been added as new claims 82-104 in the present paper, and also depend from claims that have been allowed or indicated to be allowable. Claim 3 has also been amended to clarify an antecedent basis in the last clause of the claim.

In view of the foregoing, the claims pending in the application comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112 and patentably define over the applied art. A Notice of Allowance is, therefore, respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (206) 359-3257.

Respectfully submitted,

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